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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)
(National Phase of International App.: PCT/DE00/04299, W/O 01/39864 A1)

He / A
3-20-02

In re the
application of: **Wilhelm ARDES**

International Application No.: **PCT/DE00/04299**

International Filing Date: **01 December 2000**

U.S. Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **Herewith**

For: **FLUID FILTER WITH REMOVABLE
CENTRAL COMPONENT WITH ADDITIONAL
RETAINER**

Attorney Docket No.: **HHI-031US**

BOX PCT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the enclosed above-titled International patent application as follows.

In the Specification

A¹
Page 1, line 3, after the title, insert the following "Background of the
Invention".

Page 1, line 4, please replace the paragraph with the following:

A²
--The present invention relates to a fluid filter suitable for use in an internal combustion engine.--